

and kidnapped and murdered by these hitmen. They're after our Border Patrol agents.

And recently, as recently as today, we've learned that there is a \$250,000 bounty on our Border Patrol agents for their murder and for their kidnapping. The drug cartels are putting out these hits on our Border Patrol agents because they are enforcing the rule of law and keeping the drug cartels out of this country to the best of their ability.

This is serious. This is violence. And it's being perpetrated by the drug cartels against Americans, both in Mexico, Mexicans in Mexico, and Americans in the United States.

Unfortunately, too many people in Washington, D.C. are closing their eyes to reality. They don't see that the violence has already spread into the United States.

Madam Speaker, there are 14 counties in Texas that border Mexico. And recently I called each of those 14 sheriffs and asked them this question: How many people in your county jail are foreign nationals charged with crimes in the United States, other than immigration violations? How many are charged with felonies, misdemeanors, crimes of violence? And they told me that 37 percent of the people in the border county jails in Texas are foreign nationals charged with crimes, not immigration violations. So we see that the crime in Mexico on the border is coming into the United States and affecting our border counties.

And these counties are not rich, wealthy counties. They don't have the money to try, prosecute and house these individuals.

We shouldn't wait till something tragic happens before we do something about it. There are border incursions every day by these criminal drug cartels, and now there are reports that the drug cartels are cloning Border Patrol vehicles so that they can bring drugs into the United States. Recently, there were two incursions by Mexican military helicopters across the Texas-Mexico border into the United States, and their intentions are still unknown.

So it's important, Madam Speaker, that we do what is necessary to protect the dignity of our Nation. The first duty of government is the national security to protect the people.

The Texas Governor and other Governors asked for the National Guard to go to the border to help secure and protect the dignity of our Nation. I think we should send the National Guard to the border. We need to do what is necessary because it is the duty of government to protect the people. And that protection starts at the border. And it's time we wake up to the reality of the way the world is, that the drug cartels are serious about being violent and about being criminals.

And that's just the way it is.

## HONORING THE LEADERS OF POLAND KILLED IN THE PLANE CRASH OF APRIL 10, 2010

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, this past Saturday, one of America's longest and strongest allies, the Republic of Poland, suffered a horrendous loss. A plane carrying 97 passengers crashed in Russia, including Polish President Lech Kaczynski; First Lady Maria Kaczynski; Ryszard Kaczorowski, who led a government in exile during the Communist era; Jerzy Szmajdzinski, the Deputy Speaker of Poland's Parliament; Aleksander Szczygło, the head of the National Security Bureau; Andrzej Kremer, the Deputy Minister of foreign affairs; Franciszek Gągor, the Army Chief of Staff; along with the president of Poland's National Bank, and a host of other public servants, including Anna Walentynowicz, the brave worker and opposition activist whose dismissal at the Gdansk shipyard in 1980 started the strike that led to the formation of solidarity.

All modern leaders of the Polish nation, they were mothers and fathers, brothers and sisters, sons and daughters, proud Poles all, now lost to this life but not to history.

But yet again, the Katyn forest embraces the collective tragedy of Poland's precious leaders. In the most morbid of ironies, the doomed plane was flying to Russia to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the Katyn massacre, when more than 22,000 Polish officers and leaders were murdered at the hands of Joseph Stalin and the Soviet Army in and around that forest during World War II. Their bodies were buried and the truth hidden for seven decades. That is the truth of their slaughter. That history still must be made whole.

As the former President of Poland, Lech Walesa, stated, the crash marked "the second disaster after Katyn. They wanted to cut off our head there, and here the flower of our nation has already perished," he said.

"Buttons," a poem by Polish poet Zbigniew Herbert, written in memoir of the Katyn massacre, contains one stanza which captures this modern-day tragedy as it does this Polish tragedy of 70 years ago for which it was originally penned.

"When only the metal buttons of the soldiers remain as they work their way to the Earth's surface from below, after decades where history has been masked. Now again a bird flew over, a cloud is passing, a leaf is dropping, a mallow grows, heavens above are filled with silence; the Katyn forest smokes with fog."

However, as the smoke and fog clears the Katyn forest this time, Poland will stand and prevail as a stable democracy. After this tragedy, Poland again will be led by valiant Poles and will not be occupied by foreign nations.

After an unimaginable loss of leadership such as this, a lesser country

would crumble, but not Poland. As the Polish expression reminds us, "So long as we are alive, there will be a Poland."

The nation of Poland is free and strong today. Against a backdrop of oppression, partition and heartbreak, it has emerged as one of the most freedom-loving, vibrant countries in Europe.

The United States stands in solidarity and support of her ally during this time of sorrow and mourning. The House of Representatives will honor the souls who were lost last week and remember those who were killed 70 years ago with a Special Order tomorrow.

We extend our condolences to the friends and families of those who perished, to the people of Poland, to the nation of Poland, and to the people of Polish heritage throughout the world.

This is a terrible catastrophe that brings to mind the many tragedies that have befallen Poland in the past. Yet, as we mourn, we must remember and honor what the Polish people have endured and overcome. They will do so again. We hold them in highest respect. And even through our tears, we can see clearly that Poland's best days are still ahead.

## HONORING TARA SCHIPHOF, JUNIOR MISS NORTH CAROLINA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the hard work and dedication of a young woman I recently met back home in North Carolina. Tara Schiphof was crowned the 2009/2010 Junior Miss North Carolina last summer at the age of 11.

When I met Tara over the Easter break, I was impressed by her poise, intelligence, and talent. Tara's a sixth-grader at Chestnut Grove Middle School in Stokes County and a student at the University of the North Carolina School of the Arts in the preparatory dance program.

What impressed me most about Tara was that in the midst of her busy life of dancing festivals, volunteering and giving back to her community, she remains dedicated to her studies and being a strong positive role model to her classmates.

So not only is Tara an award-winning competitive dancer; this sixth-grade girl is a real North Carolina role model.

□ 2015

She's very committed to her studies and is an honor student at Chestnut Grove. She's also raised money and volunteered for many organizations, including the Masonic Home for Children in Oxford, North Carolina, the Stokes County Arts Council, and the American Heart Association.

I'm proud to represent a fine citizen like Tara. Tara's family and friends